

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 862

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

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ANKARA FOR DELIVERY TO NATO DEPARTMENT TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTRY

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: STATEMENT OF BULGARIAN DELEGATE TO
MBFR PLENARY MEETING DEC. 5

THE BULGARIAN DELGATE (DICHEV) ON DECEMBER 5 PRESENTED

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO THE MBFR PLENARY MEETING:

BEGIN TEXT:

MR. CHAIRMAN,

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GENTLEMEN,

MORE THAN A MONTH HAS ALREADY PASSED SINCE THE OPENING OF THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. THIS TIME HAS, IN OUR VIEW, NOT PASSED UNPROFITABLY. AS A RESULT OF THE EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE WE HAVE BEGUN BETTER TO UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER'S POSITIONS. THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION HAS SATISFACTION IN STATING THAT THE DISCUSSIONS HAVE ALSO PERMITTED THE APPEARANCE OF A COMMUNITY OF VIEWS ON A VARIETY OF ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM UNDER DISCUSSION. ALL THE DELEGATIONS HAVE, IN PARTICULAR, AFKCMED THAT IN ADDITION TO THE UNDERSTANDING ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN FUTURE AGREEMENTS, WHICH ARE TO BE ELEVEN STATES, THERE ALSO EXISTS AGREEMENT AMONG US CONCERNING THE AREA OF THE FORTHCOMING REDUCTIONS, WHICH IS TO INCLUDE THE TERRITORIES OF BELGIUM, THE GDR, LUXEMBOURG, THE NETHERLANDS, POLAND, THE FRG AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. ALL THE PARTICIPANTS IN OUR NEGOTIATIONS FURTHER CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL THAT THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT DIMINISHING THE SECURITY INTERESTS OF ANY OTHER STATES.

THE EXISTENCE OF COMMON POINTS OF VIEW IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS; IT INDUBITABLY FACILITATES THE SEARCH FOR MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE DECISIONS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION CONSIDERS THAT OUR WORK IN VIENNA MIGHT PROCEED MORE RAPIDLY. WE PROCEED PRIMARILY FROM THE FACT THAT, BY GENERAL CONSENT, THE PREPARATORY TALKS HAVE LAID A GOOD FOUNDATION FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS.

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, BASING ITSELF ON THE UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED IN THE COURSE OF THE PREPARATORY TALKS, HAS USED THE TIME WHICH WE HAD AT OUR DISPOSAL BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR A CAREFUL PREPARATION FOR THEM. LIKE THE OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, WE WERE GUIDED BY A DESIRE TO MAKE OUR CONTRIBUTION TO ENSURING THAT OUR DISCUSSIONS ACQUIRED FROM THE VERY BEGINNING A CONCRETE AND BUSINESSLIKE CHARACTER, WHICH

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WOULD HASTEN AGREEMENT ON PRACTICAL MEASURES FOR THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION IS CONVINCED THAT THE DRAFT AGREEMENT TABLED ON 8 NOVEMBER BY THE SOVIET UNION IN THE NAME OF FOUR SOCIALIST STATES SERVES THIS PURPOSE IN THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY. IN OUR SPEECH OF 13 NOVEMBER, WE DECLARED THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA FOR THIS DRAFT. MY DISTINGUISHED COLLEAGUES, THE HEADS OF THE DELEGATIONS OF THE USSR, THE GDR, POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA, POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS IN FUTURE AGREEMENTS, EXPOUNDED IN A DETAILED AND WELL-ARGUMENTED WAY AT PREVIOUS SESSIONS THE MAIN PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT AND CONVINCINGLY DEMONSTRATED ITS MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE CHARACTER. THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION ENTIRELY SHARES THE VIEWS SET OUT IN THEIR SPEECHES.

A MONTH HAS PASSED SINCE TABLING OF THE ABOVE DRAFT; HOWEVER, ALL THAT WE HAVE HEARD FROM OUR WESTERN COLLEAGUES SO FAR SHOWS, AS WE SEE IT, THEIR UNWILLINGNESS TO START AN IMMEDIATE SEARCH FOR MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS WHICH ARE BEFORE US. THE WORKING PAPER TABLED BY THE US DELEGATION IN THE NAME OF SOME NATO COUNTRIES ON NOVEMBER 22 CONFIRMS US IN THIS ASSUMPTION.

THE ESSENCE OF THE ISSUE IS THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS BASED ON A ONE-SIDED AND CONSEQUENTLY UNREALISTIC APPROACH. THE PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN IT CONTRADICT THE PRINCIPLE AGREED BETWEEN ALL OF US OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR ALL PARTIES, IN THE STRICT OBSERVANCE OF WHICH ARE INTERESTED NOT ONLY THE STATES PARTICIPATING IN THESE TALKS, INCLUDING THE BULGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC, BUT ALSO ALL THE COUNTRIES OF EUROPE. IN THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE PREPARATORY TALKS OF JUNE 28 IT IS STATED, AND I QUOTE: "THEY REACHED AN UNDERSTANDING THAT DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS THE QUESTION OF THE MUTUAL REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS AND ASSOCIATED MEASURES IN CENTRAL EUROPE WILL BE EXAMINED." THIS, IN THE VIEW OF THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION, MEANS THAT THE MAIN TASK OF THE PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS IS TO REACH AN

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UNDERSTANDING ON THE REDUCTION OF ALL, THAT IS FOREIGN AND NATIONAL, ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS WHICH ARE STATIONED IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

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MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

THIS BASIC POINT ON WHICH WE HAVE TO

AGREE HERE IS CIRCUMVENTED IN THE DOCUMENT OF OUR WESTERN
COLLEAGUES. ALTHOUGH THE BULGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC WILL
NOT REDUCE ITS ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS BECAUSE OF ITS
SPECIAL STATUS AT THESE TALKS, IT IS NOT A MATTER OF
INDIFFERENCE TO US WHETHER SUCH BIG COUNTRIES AS THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND GREAT BRITAIN WILL REDUCE THEIR
ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS. WHEN LOOKING AT THE PROPOSAL
MADE BY THE NATO COUNTRIES ONE WOULD THINK THAT THESE ARMED
FORCES DO NOT EXIST AT ALL.

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BULGARIA IS SPECIALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE FACT THAT THE
PLAN PROPOSED BY A NUMBER OF NATO COUNTRIES IS DESIGNED
TO OBTAIN ONE-SIDED MILITARY ADVANTAGES AND, THEREFORE,
DIMINISHES THE SECURITY OF A GROUP OF COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING
IN THESE TALKS.

IN FACT, THE PROPOSALS OF THE WESTERN SIDE ARE AIMED AT CHANGING THE EXISTING RELATIONSHIP OF FORCES IN EUROPE TO NATO'S ADVANTAGE. EVIDENCE OF THIS IS, IN PARTICULAR, THE PROPOSAL TO MAKE SUBJECT TO REDUCTION ONLY A PART OF FOREIGN LAND FORCES, NAMELY THOSE OF THE USSR AND THE USA, AND TO CARRY OUT THE REDUCTION ON AN INEQUITABLE BASIS.

THIS IS THE SENSE OF THE PROPOSAL ABOUT THE WITHDRAWAL OF A SMALL PART OF US GROUND FORCES ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS AND ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF STORING ARMAMENTS AND COMBAT EQUIPMENT IN THE REDUCTION ZONE. WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND THE INSISTENCE WITH WHICH THE NATO COUNTRIES ATTEMPT TO PUT AIR FORCES OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF REDUCTIONS AS WELL AS UNITS AND SUB-UNITS EQUIPPED WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS, ALTHOUGH IT IS CLEAR TO EVERYONE THAT THEY REPRESENT THE MAIN STRIKING POWER OF MODERN ARMED FORCES.

THE DISTURBANCE OF THE EXISITING RELATIONSHIP OF FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE AT WHICH THE WESTERN PROPOSALS ARE AIMED WOULD CREATE A NEW AND LESS STABLE SITUATION NOT ONLY IN THIS REGION BUT ALSO IN OTHER REGIONS OF THE EUPEAN CONTINENT, INCLUDING THE BALKANS. THE QUESTION ARISES -- WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM IT? WILL THE AUTHORS THEMSELVES BENEFIT FROM THIS KIND OF A PROPOSAL? IN THE VIEW OF THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION ALL WOULD LOSE, INCLUDING THE FLANK COUNTRIES AND ALL PEOPLES OF EUROPE. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT ONE CANNOT REACH A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION ON SUCH A BASIS.

THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THIS THOUGHT IN SUPPORT OF THE ARGUMENT THAT IN THE EQUAL PERCENTAGE REDUCTION OF FOREIGN AND NATIONAL ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS BY ALL ELEVEN POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS OF FUTURE AGREEMENTS WE SEE A GUARANTEE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR ALL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING OURS. IN THIS CONNECTION I WOULD LIKE TO CITE THE DRAFT AGREEMENT OF

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THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, WHERE IT IS STATED, AND I QUOTE: "THE REDUCTION OF FOREIGN AS WELL AS OF NATIONAL ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY THE STATES: PARTICIPANTS ON AN EQUAL PERCENTAGE BASIS STRICTLY WITHIN THE AGREED TIME LIMITS AND IN SUCH A MANNER AS NOT TO DIMINISH THE SECURITY OF ANY PARTY.

THE REDUCTION OF FOREIGN AND NATIONAL ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE WILL NOT ONLY COMPLEMENT THE POLITICAL DENTE IN EUROPE BUT ALSO, AND THIS IS SPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO MY COUNTRY, WILL HAVE A BENEFICIAL EFFECT ON DETENTE IN THE REGION OF THE BALKAN PENINSULA.

THE BULGARIAN DELEGATION INTENDS TO CONTINUE TO HELP
GIVE OUR TALKS A CONSTRUCTIVE CHARACTER IN ORDER TO ATTAIN
IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME THOSE POSITIVE RESULTS FOR
WHICH ALL EUROPEAN NATIONS ARE WAITING. END TEXT
HUMES

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